

MDS Section Q

Beginning October 1, 2010, all individuals upon admission to the NF/SNF, and with the annual and quarterly assessments, as well as upon significant change, will be asked if they would like to speak with someone about the possibility of returning to the community to live and options for community based supports and services. If the individual living in the NF/SNF answers yes, the NF/SNF is required to act upon this request through discharge care planning.

The information that follows will assist a NF/SNF in determining who can be contacted to assist the member in returning to the community. Regardless of who the NF/SNF may need to contact for assistance to transition a resident back to the community, a NF/SNF must be an **active partner** in that transition process.

Other than for an ALTCS member, the resources available to assist the resident and NF/SNF may be limited.

WHO TO CONTACT

ALTCS Members

- If your NF/SNF resident is currently an ALTCS member enrolled with a managed care organization (MCO), you should contact that member's case manager. A list of the ALTCS managed care organizations can be located at:
www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/healthplans/contractors.aspx
- If your NF/SNF resident is currently an ALTCS Fee-for-Service (FFS) member, you should contact the member's case manager. A list of the ALTCS Tribal Contractors who provide case management to ALTCS FFS members can be located at:
<http://www.azahcccs.gov/tribal/members/tribalALTCS.aspx>

Potentially ALTCS Eligible

If you feel the NF/SNF resident is eligible for ALTCS, you should coordinate a referral for an eligibility determination to the local ALTCS eligibility office. If the NF/SNF resident is determined to be ALTCS eligible the ALTCS MCO case manager can be contacted to assist the resident in planning their discharge to the community.

A list of the local ALTCS eligibility offices can be located at:
www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/application/ALTCS.aspx

AHCCCS Acute Care Member, Not Potentially ALTCS Eligible

If your NF/SNF resident is currently an AHCCCS Acute Care member enrolled with one of the AHCCCS MCOs contact the member's plan. A list of the plans and their contact information can be located at:

- AHCCCS Acute MCOs -
<http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/healthplans/healthplans.aspx>

NOT Potentially ALTCS Eligible

If you know that the NF/SNF resident is not ALTCS eligible or would not be eligible for ALTCS, you should contact the Area Agency on Aging in your area. You can find a list of Area Agencies on Aging at:

www.azdes.gov/daas/aaa

Please keep in mind that the amount of assistance from the local Area Agency on Aging may be limited.

As previously noted, regardless of who the NF/SNF may need to contact for assistance to transition a resident back to the community, a NF/SNF must be an active partner in the process to assist the resident to transition back to the community.

You may submit questions to MDSSectionQ@azahcccs.gov
Do not include any protected health information in your email.

Section Q Web Sites -- Information Provided by CMS

Section Q PDF Brochure that allows adding typed Medicaid Agencies, MFP programs, ADRCs, Ombudsman, etc. contact information or to be printed and contact labels added in color or black and white.

- <http://www.medicare.gov/publications/pubs/pdf/11477.pdf> - The brochure lives on Medicare.gov on the publications page at this url. Residents and family members can call 1-800-MEDICARE to order a free copy.
- <http://productordering.cms.hhs.gov> - For providers to order the brochure, use the following instructions: Please visit and set up an account to order. Once your account is approved you will be able to log on and place orders.
- <http://go.usa.gov/xTe> - If you are referencing the brochure in an article or other text, you can use this short url.

Section Q Return to Community Resources

- http://www.cms.gov/CommunityServices/10_CommunityLivingInitiative.asp#TopOfPage – this website with the most up to date point of contact list and Section Q & A document, best practice tools and links to CMS Section Q training, brochure and video resources.

MDS 3.0 Training Materials

- http://www.cms.gov/NursingHomeQualityInits/45_NHQIMDS30TrainingMaterials.asp#TopOfPage - Provides MDS 3.0 coding training slides, instructor guides, training aides, MDS 3.0 RAI Manual updates and linkages to CMS internal and external websites.